GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2133
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2003
EYE BANKS
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the donors, who declare to donate their eyes after death are more in number on paper than the actual number of eyes received by the Eye Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any specific measures have been taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to motivate people to donate their eyes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The pledges made by the donors to donate their eyes after death are much more than the actual number of eyes received by the Eye banks. In the country, every year about 2 lakhs eye are pledged while the actual collection of corneas is about 21 thousand per year.

(c) & (d) Annual `eye donation fortnight` from 25th August to 8th September and Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programmes are being organized to motivate the people for donating the eyes.